

Jefferson City Letter.

This legislature is making an unheard of record, and six bills were passed Jan. 24th, the earliest time such a thing has ever occurred.

The bill fixing passenger rates on all railroads at two and a half cents a mile, introduced by W. H. Phelps, was thrashed out January 24th, all railroads having their attorneys present to talk on the matter. The Committee reported the bill for passage. This bill was ordered engrossed January 26th.

Game Warden Tollerton is to be investigated. Representative Frank Farris introduced a resolution charging that the state paid large sums for political expenses of the game warden. It will be heard by three senators and three representatives.

The automobile bill was sent to engrossment Jan. 24th in the House. Under the bill "joy" riding is approved, reckless driving and chauffeur's age being given proper attention.

A joint and concurrent resolution has been introduced providing for the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people.

A bill has been introduced in the Senate to revise the probate laws. Eleven bills along this line have been introduced, among the changes being the shortening of terms of administrators.

A bill creating the office of Circuit Attorney in each judicial circuit in the state has been offered. It will prove an expensive luxury. However, should it be passed, Lafayette county would be entitled to name said attorney, Saline county already having both the criminal and circuit judges.

Senator Chinn has introduced ten bills revising the probate court laws.

A bill has been introduced to establish and maintain a uniform course of public school text books and to reduce their cost. Its a good law and should pass. School books cost too much and the books used should be good anywhere in the state.

Most of the members of the legislature "got" in the penitentiary Wednesday night. They were invited to attend a musical concert given by the convicts.

The House election Committee is to investigate the St. Louis vote in the recent election. This is as it should be and the Republican frauds will now be brought out in the four contests for representative.

Representative Houx introduced his bill Jan. 25th putting 112 prosecuting attorneys on a salary. It is House Bill 466. Senator Chinn introduced a similar bill in the senate.

Representative Houx has introduced two important road bills. One bill covers the voting of bonds in special eight-mile road districts like that in Lexington, and the other provides that townships may vote bonds for road roads. Should these bills be passed there will be no trouble in disposing of them to bond companies. He also introduced two other similar bills.

Senate bill providing that women may serve as school directors, has been approved in committee.

Unheard of increased appropriations have already been asked for, and bills therefore have already been introduced. Bills increasing the salaries of practically every official holding a state or county office, to say nothing of state institution appropriations, have been offered for passage. State Auditor Gordon has issued an estimate of all available revenues for the years 1911 and 1912. The total amount that will be collected is fixed at \$9,690,000.00 while the total appropriations already asked for amount to \$11,437,729.52. This will, if allowed, cause a deficiency of \$1,657,729.52. Just where this increased amount of

money is to come from has not been explained. As a result many asked for increases will necessarily have to be "cut down." One of the big increases is that asked for by the State University. For 1911 and 1912 this institution is asking for \$2,598,560.00, an increase over that appropriated for 1909-1910 of \$780,912.

Representative Sharp of Clay county has introduced a sensible election bill. It provides that hereafter no Judge of election or other person can help a voter prepare his ballot unless the voter is blind, paralyzed, lacking of hands, or otherwise physically incapable of preparing the ballot himself. In other words it is an educational bill, the ignorance of the voter being no grounds for giving him help, regardless of political affiliation.

Representative Irwin's bill to publish the names of all the taxpayers with the amount of their personal assessments, was refused engrossment, the vote in opposition being four to one. The aim of the measure was to make tax dodgers ashamed of themselves.

One of the best bills that will be introduced this legislature, is the one offered by Dr. Holcomb, the able representative from Jackson county, providing for a state flag. It should become a law, that every Missourian may "show" his state pride on every flag should also be on a button occasion possible. Further, this to be worn by all Missourians throughout the Union.

Senator Chinn has introduced three bills as to passenger trains. One requiring conductors to report without delay to secretary of Railroad Commissioners all accidents, one to provide necessary coaches and the other that spittoons be provided on all passenger trains. Another requires that all trains make schedule time.

A bill has been introduced to establish a reformatory for first offenders between 16 and 25 years.

The House rightly refused to abolish the office of Building and Loan Inspector.

Representative Houx is recognized as one of the solid and energetic members of the House. He is ever at his post of duty and watchful of the interests of his constituents. In electing him the voters of Lafayette county made no mistake, and there is no fear but what he will "make good" as to every expectation.

Mrs. Leroy Farmer and Mrs. W. R. Humphrey went to Kansas City Thursday for a few days' visit.

Edwin Roberts and Irvin Morris arrived from Columbia Thursday for a few days' visit with homefolks.

Ike Noyes was in Higginsville Thursday on business.

JUST PUBLISHED

Webster's NEW INTERNATIONAL Dictionary, (G. & C. Merriam Co., Springfield, Mass.) surpasses the old International as much as that book exceeded its predecessor. On the old foundation a new superstructure has been built. The reconstruction has been carried on through many years by a large force of trained workers, under the supervision of Dr. W. T. Harris, former United States Commissioner of Education, and reinforced by many eminent specialists. The definitions have been rearranged and amplified. The number of terms defined has been more than doubled. The etymology, synonyms, pronunciation, have received increasing scholarly labor. The language of English literature for over seven centuries, the terminology of the arts and sciences, and the every-day speech of street, shop, and household, are presented with fulness and clearness. In its vocabulary, in richness of general information, and in convenience of consultation, the book sets a new mark in lexicography.

400,000 words and phrases.
6000 illustrations.
2700 pages.

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MARRIAGE AND LONGEVITY

Wedded Man, as a Rule, Lives Longer Than Bachelor, Though the Reason is Not Clear.

Longevity is not in itself a thing greatly to be desired unless strength is retained and mental alertness. It is not a good thing to live for 100 years if the last 30 of them are spent in weakness, with no activity marking them. Yet men who have been married have lived to a ripe old age, their minds still active and capable. John Bigelow today gets much more enjoyment out of life than many who blessed with less than 30 years. Bachelors have been known to reach the age of discretion, which we are told is the seventeenth year, but with them old age has been a crabbed thing. It is the married man who really lives the longest of his race.

We do not know just why this is. There have been old tobacco users and old men who have never used tobacco; old whisky drinkers and old men who have never drunk at all. It is only when marriage is made the test that old age is explained. It may be that the bliss of marriage in the early years prepares men for all vicissitudes, and it may be that the loving care of a woman is responsible for the whole thing. We do not know. We only wish to emphasize the point that when it comes to old age the bachelors are strongly wanting. It takes a married man to live a long time.—Charleston News and Courier.

NEW DISCOVERIES IN CRETE

Fine Wall Paintings and Other Objects Revealed by Recent Excavations of Palace at Knossos.

The excavations which have recently taken place in Crete under the superintendence of Dr. A. J. Evans and Dr. Dunkan Mackenzie, have resulted in the discovery of some important archeological points in connection with the palace at Knossos. Some wall paintings of very fine workmanship were brought to light, showing that the whole place had been richly decorated with scenes of a mythological character. During the progress of the excavations the explorers came upon a large vault situated under the southern gateway. At first it was thought that this might have been a burying place, but Dr. Evans is of opinion that it was a reservoir for supplying the palace with water, not the one under examination, however, but a palace of a much earlier date, which is known to have existed on this site. A number of small objects were also discovered, among them the most interesting being a marble votive altar of very fine workmanship, and also some interesting fragments of pottery of the early Mycenaean period.—London Globe.

PUSH MAN TRAIN.

One of the quaintest sights in Japan is the "push man train," a little railway which runs for 19 miles along the seacoast between Atami and Odawara, taking four hours to complete the journey.

Each car is hauled and pushed up hill by coolies and then allowed to run down the next incline by its own momentum, the coolies jumping on behind. When striking precipices and rounding sharp curves this becomes somewhat exciting, the sensation is rather like being in a runaway switchback car.

WORKS WITHOUT MONEY.

It is expected that the National Red Cross society will swing into line with the Carnegie Peace Fund commission and lend its best efforts to further the great undertaking. Miss Mabel Boardman, who works at her desk in the war department for the Red Cross like any employee of the government, does not get any salary for her work. She is a wealthy woman in her own right and a great friend of the Taft family.

GOOD PLAN OF CHARITY.

Mrs. Elizabeth W. Garrett, who died recently, bequeathed a Delaware county farm of 200 acres to the poor. It is to be turned into a lodge with orchards and green fields, and poor children and single women are to find there a place of rest for a certain period each summer.

CHANGED.

"He is a jolly good fellow."
"You mean he was?"
"Was?"
"Yes, he swore off New Year's."

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